

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Applicant appreciates that Office's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-21.

5 This communication is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the 3/21/05 Office Action.

Claims 5, 11, 13, and 14 are amended to correct editing errors. The amendments are not directed to patentability.

10 **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 6,460,113 to Schubert et al. (hereinafter, "Schubert").

Claim 1 is directed to a method in a computer system for aggregating storage in a data storage network having a server with one or more
15 consumers, a storage system with available storage, and a communication fabric linking the server and the storage system. Claim 1 is amended and recites:

- pooling the available storage to create virtual drives;
- presenting the virtual drives to the server over the fabric;
- 20 • in response, receiving a logical command from the server for access to the available storage represented by the virtual drives;

- transmitting the logical command to a controller of the available storage identified in the logical command; and,
- receiving a snapshot configuration command and copying the virtual drives included in the snapshot configuration command to create snapshot virtual drives.

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Amended claim 1 recites a limitation indicated as allowable in relation to claim 7. Application respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn and that claim 1 be allowed.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

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CONCLUSION

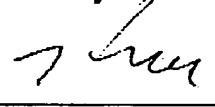
Claims 1-6, and 8-21 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the

5 present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate allowance of the application, the Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,
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